(1442)
POL 14 Viets
XR POL 15-2 Viets

Department of State TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 08564 020502Z

22
ACTION EA-20

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-08 L-04 NSAE-00

NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 AID-28 IO-16

UPW-01 RSR-01 /133 W

009973

R 020435Z MAY 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5535
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC, NR
REVIEWED BY Joan Zarbin DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐or XD ☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 8564

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE PASSES LOWER HOUSE ELECTION BILL

REF: SAIGON 7107 [illegible] vs POL 15-2 [illegible]

1. AFTER SPENDING TWO HOURS DISCUSSING THE ARREST OF DEPUTY NGO CNG DUC (SAIGON 8531) THE LOWER HOUSE JUNE 1 ACHIEVED THE NECESSARY TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY TOREVERSE SENATE ACTION ON ALL IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF LH ELECTION BILL.

2. THUS BILL NOW:

A. PROVIDES 6 RESERVED SEATS FOR MONTAGNARDS, 2 FOR NORTHERN REFUGEE MONTAGNARDS, 2 FOR CHAMS, AND 6 FOR CAMBODIANS; THE SAME AS 1967. (SENTATE HAD ADDED TWO MORE MONTAGNARD SEATS.)

B. CALLS FOR RESIGNATION A YEAR BEFORE ELECTION DAY FOR CERTAIN PROVINCIAL AND MILITARY OFFICIALS WHOSE POSITIONS WOULD GIVE THEM AN ADVANTAGE (SENATE HAD LOWERED TIME PERIOD

(2)

SANITIZED

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TO SIX MONTHS, THE SAME AS 1967).

C. DOES NOT RPT NOT EXEMPT CANDIDATES SPONSORED BY LEGAL POLITICAL PARTIES FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO DEPOSIT 50,000 PIASTERS TOWARD CAMPAIGN EXPENSES, AS PROPOSED BY THE SENATE.

D. DOES NOT RPT NOT INCLUDE LANGUAGE ADDED BY THE SENATE TO MAKE FRAUD RELATED TO DISTRIBUTION OF VOTERS' CARDS MORE DIFFICULT.

E. DOES NOT RPT NOT PROVIDE THAT PROVINCES AD MUNICIPALITIES WITH MORE THAN 225,000 VOTERS BE DIVIDED INTO TWO CONSTITUENCIES. HOWEVER, SPECIAL PROVISIONS DIVIDE SAIGON INTO THREE CONSTITUENCIES AND GIA GINH PROVINCE (SURROUNDING SAIGON) INTO TWO, AS IN 1967.

3. THE LOWER HOUSE POSITION ON SOME OF THESE POINTS IS CLEARLY AIMED AT ASSISTING THE INCUMBENTS, BUT THE BILL HAS AROUSED NO MAJOR CONTROVERSY. IT NOW GOES TO PRESIDENT THIEU FOR SIGNATURE OR PROPOSAL OF AMENDMENTS.
BUNKER

DECLASSIFIED